

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 SS-15 EUR-12 EB-07 AF-06 AID-05

SP-02 OIC-02 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 CIEP-01 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

FEAE-00 OMB-01 DOTE-00 FMC-01 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03

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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1493

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 1880

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, EGEN, UN, UNGA, NP

SUBJECT: UNGA SPECIAL SESSION

REF: STATE 075525

1. LOOKING AHEAD TO THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE UNGA THERE MAY BE SOME UTILITY IN CONSIDERING
NEPAL'S POSITION AS A POSSIBLE IRRADIGM FOR A
SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF SMALL, THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.
UNLIKE MANY OF THE RICHER DEVELOPING STATES NEPAL
IS NOT A PRODUCER OF ANY MAJOR RAW MATERIAL AND IS
ITSELF DEPENDENT FOR ALL INDUSTRIAL COMPONENTS ON
IMPORTED COMMODITIES. CONSEQUENTLY IT HAS NO DIRECT
NATIONAL INTEREST IN SUPPORTING THIRD WORLD DEMANDS
FOR CARTELS TO CONTROL THE PRICE OF RAW MATERIALS.
EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN HIGH PRICES ON RAW MATERIALS WILL
IN FACT BE TO NEPAL'S DISADVANTAGE. NEPAL ALSO HAS
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LITTLE DIRECT INTEREST IN THE INDEXATION OF COMMODITY

PRICES UNLESS SUCH INDEXATION IS ACCEPTED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS WELL AS DEVELOPED. THAT IS, IN ANY SYSTEM OF INDEXATION, IT WOULD NEED TO BE ASSURED THAT INDIA, ITS PRIMARY SOURCE OF RAW MATERIALS AND ITS MAJOR MARKET FOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, ACCEPTED A LINK BETWEEN THE PRICING OF NEPAL'S IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

2. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THERE IS A REAL POSSIBILITY THAT NEPAL WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO OUR VIEWS ABOUT PRODUCERS CARTELS AND ON THIS ISSUE AT LEAST MAY BE SEPARABLE FROM THE BROAD CONSENSUS OF THIRD WORLD THINKING. TO ACHIEVE SUCH A SEPARATION, HOWEVER, NEPAL AND OTHERS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED WILL NEED CLEAR STATISTICAL EVIDENCE THAT PROPOSALS OF THE GROUP OF 77, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE CONTRARY TO THEIR NATIONAL ECONOMIC INTERESTS.

3. OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE NEPAL ON THESE ISSUES WILL ALSO DEPEND IN SIGNIFICANT PART ON OUR RESPONSIVENESS TO NEPAL'S OWN VITAL INTERESTS. THESE ARE LIMITED AND FOCUS ON ISSUES RELATING TO ITS LANDLOCKED STATUS. IF WE WISH TO SEPARATE NEPAL AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN A SIMILAR POSITION FROM THE MAINSTREAM OF RADICAL THINKING WE MUST DEVELOP POSITIONS RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS. TO DATE NEPAL HAS NOT FOUND ITS THIRD WORLD FRIENDS SUPPORTIVE ON LANDLOCKED QUESTIONS AND IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY WELCOME SOME INDICATION OF OUR SUPPORT. IF FOR EXAMPLE WE ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THE NON-ALIGNED'S POSITION ON PUERTO RICO, WHERE OUR OWN INTERESTS ARE DIRECTLY ENGAGED, WE MIGHT DEVELOP A QUID PRO QUO APPROACH UNDER WHICH NEPALESE MIGHT PUBLICLY SUPPORT OUR POSITION IN RETURN FOR A COMMITMENT BY US TO SOME ELEMENT OF THEIR PROPOSALS ON TRADE AND TRANSIT RIGHTS.

4. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT NEPAL IS RESENTFUL AT THE HIGH-HANDED STEAMROLLER TACTICS OF THE ALGERIANS AND OTHERS, IT WILL NOT RISK ISOLATION FROM THE MAINSTREAM OF THE NON-ALIGNED UNLESS WE CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE ARE CONCRETE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS IN

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